

Serial No.: 10/526,358
Atty. Docket No.: P70436US0

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 5, 2006, has been carefully reviewed and Applicants note with appreciation the identification of allowed subject matter.

By this Amendment, claim 35 has been canceled and claims 24, 25, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 38-42 and 44 have been amended, and new claim 45 has been added. Accordingly, claims 23-34 and 36-45 are pending in the application. Claims 23 and 34 are independent.

As an initial matter, Applicants have amended the specification to include headings in accordance with U.S. practice. Claims 24, 30, 31, 33, 36, 38-42 and 44 have also been amended to correct informalities noted therein.

The Examiner rejected claim 34 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,069,377 to Prentice et al. The Examiner objected to claims 35-44 as being dependent on a rejected base claim but stated that claims 35-44 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 23-33 are allowed.

Claim 34 has been amended herein to incorporate the subject matter of claim 35. Therefore, claim 34 as well as


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dependent claims 36-45 are in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter.

With this amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the present application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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